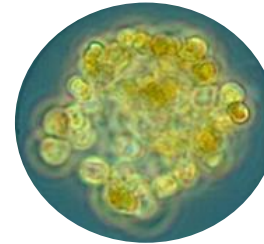


Phaeocystis



Proliferation of initially solitary free swimming cells of *Phaeocystis* when nutrients are abundant.

Cells congregate together to form large colonies

Each colony is encased in a gelatinous membrane and secretes mucus to protect itself.

When the sea is rough remnants of dying colonies are whipped up by the waves forming foam.

